

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27TH, 1883.

Professor W. J. Stephens, M.A., in the Chair.

MEMBERS ELECTED.

Thomas Richards, Esq., Government Printer.

Patrick Hayes, Esq., The Oaks, Neutral Bay.

John Laskey Woolcock, B.A., Brisbane.

DONATIONS.

"Feuille des Jeunes Naturalistes," Paris, No. 151, May, 1883.
From the Editor.

"Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou."
Tome lvii., No. 3, 1882. From the Society.

"Verslagen en Mededeelingen der Koninklijke Akademie van
Wetenschappen te Amsterdam." Deel. xvii., 8vo, 1882. Also,
"Jaarboek voor 1881." From the Society.

"Catalogue of Books added to the Radcliffe Library, Oxford,
during the year 1882." From the Oxford University Museum.

A large number of copies of Vols. I. to IV. of the "Proceedings,"
presented by the Hon. W. Macleay, for the use of the Society
also, a number of copies of "Proceedings," Vols. III., IV., V. and VI.,
presented by Professor W. J. Stephens.

"Abhandlungen herausgegeben vom naturwissenschaftlichen
Vereine zu Bremen," VII. Band, 1 Heft., mit 4 Tafeln., 8vo, 1883.

PAPERS READ.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW GENERA AND SPECIES OF AUSTRALIAN
FISHES.

BY CHARLES W. DE VIS, B.A.

GIRELLA CARBONARIA. n. sp.

D. 13/11. A. 3/11. L. lat. 50. I. transv. 8/18.

Height of body less than one-third, and head less than one-fifth of
the total length; diameter of orbit one-fifth, and length of snout
two-fifths of the length of the head. Teeth petaloid, incurved, edge

entire, slightly arched, in several imbricate series. Colour (recent) dark grey; edges of scales, belly, and hinder edge of the anal fin pale.

Long, 15 inches.

Loc. Moreton Bay. Black Bream of the Market.

GIRELLA MENTALIS. n. sp.

D. 13/14. A. 3/12. L. lat. 56. L. transv. 8/18.

Height of body three times and one-third, and length of head five times, in the total length; diameter of orbit four times and one-third in the length of the head, and the length of the snout and width of the interorbital space twice and two-thirds in the same; upper third of opercle scaly; teeth tricuspid, a bare space between the outer and inner ones. The maxillary subtends the posterior nostril; upper and lower profile equally convex; nape slightly elevated; caudal deeply emarginate. Colour (recent) dark purplish grey with several obscure vertical bands, cheeks and chin yellow; pupil black, iris silvery, head shining greenish black, separated from the scales of the neck by a yellowish crescent.

Long. 15."

Loc. Moreton Bay.

NEW GENUS DACTYLOPHORA. Fam. Cirrhitidæ.

One dorsal fin with sixteen spines. One of the simple pectoral rays elongate; anal short; lower teeth in a single series; upper in several in a lunate patch; cheeks naked; preorbital and preoperculum entire; four branchiostegals; scales cycloid, of moderate size; caudal forked.

D. SEMIMACULATA.

D. 16/24. A. 3/10. L. lat. 52. L. transv. 4/11.

Height equal to length of head, one-fourth of total length; circa-orbit four-and-a-half, snout three, interorbital space nearly four times, in the length of the head. Five simple pectoral rays, the uppermost free for one-sixth of its length and reaching the origin of the anal. A curved ascending ridge on the preoperculum; lateral eminences between the posterior nasal orifices. First dorsal spine the shortest, spines gradually lengthening to sixth, which is one-third of the

height of the body and equals the longest dorsal ray ; profile of the soft dorsal arched ; caudal peduncle long, its depth one-third of the length of the head ; caudal broad, moderately forked. Color in spirit yellowish brown ; tail with large, black spots, and the lobes pale-tipped ; trunk with black spots passing into blotches anteriorly and superiorly ; a dark line from the eye and another from the preoperculum across the operculum ; a row of spots along the middle of the soft dorsal.

Long. 9."

South Australia.

PLATYCEPHALUS SEMERMIS.

D1. 7/12. A. 11. L. lat. 50.

Head one-third of the total length, its breadth two-fifths of its length ; orbit two and-half, interorbit four times in the length of the snout ; snout two and three-fourths in the head ; head unarmed, with low irregular ridges, the superciliary forming a hook before the orbit ; a short spine at the upper angle of the operculum ; two preopercular spines sub-equal in length, the lower much the broader at the base. Brown above (in spirits) white beneath, the colors defined by a marbled line ; a broad black bar across the head ; anal white spotted with brown ; the other fins yellowish brown spotted with blackish brown.

Long. 5."

South Australia.

POLYNEMUS SPECULARIS.

D. 7, 1/15-16. A. 3/17-18. L. lat. 56.

Height of body equal to the length of the caudal lobes, and one-fourth to four-seventeenth of total length ; head one-fourth to one-fifth of same ; orbit three and a-half in the head, snout one-half of the orbit. Seven pectoral filaments, the upper one not quite or as long as the pectoral, and reaching the anus ; orbit covered by a thick semi-opaque membrane. Lateral line with a short arch beneath the posterior third of the soft dorsal ; preoperculum entire on lower limb, with some serrations at the angle and a notch above it ; soft dorsal fin sub-falcate. Colour (recent)

golden on postabdomen, back and head ; silvery pink on abdomen, the two colours being sharply defined ; anal and caudal fins greenish yellow ; middle or whole of the pectoral densely speckled with black, of spinous dorsal less or not at all so.

Long. 9—12."

Loc.—Brisbane River.

FAM. AMBLYOPINA.

LEME. NEW GENUS.

Body elongate, compressed ; head large, oblong, quadrilateral ; cleft of the mouth directed upwards ; lower jaw prominent ; eyes nearly hidden ; chin with barbels ; teeth strong, protruding on the edge of the jaws ; one long dorsal fin almost continuous with caudal and anal ; all the fin rays simple, flexible ; anterior dorsal rays not separate , ventrals of one spine and five rays united into a disk, thoracic ; pectorals short. Branchiostegals four. Scales rudimentary.

L. MORDAX.

Fin formula doubtful, the investing membrane preventing satisfactory enumeration. Height one-seventeenth, head one-eighteenth of the total length ; ventral fin two-thirds of the head ; pectoral one-fourth of the same. Dentition $\frac{6}{8}$ strong canines in front—two or three small ones on each side above—a small one alternately with the large ones below ; behind the upper and lower canines, a band of viliform teeth ; teeth on the palate, none on the vomer ; six barbels in two converging rows on the chin, with one intermediate near the angle, all small. The dorsal and anal fins are separated from the caudal by a slight notch. There are rudimentary embedded scales on the hinder part of the trunk and on half of the caudal. Ventral disk pointed, and placed on a stout pedicle. The dorsal arises between the operculum and the anal papilla. Caudal moderate, pointed. Color in spirits, uniform yellowish brown.

Long. 12."

Loc.—Murray River, Queensland.

SPHYRÆNA STRENUA.

D. 5, 1/9. A. 1/9. L. lat. 82 (?).

Height nine and a-half in the length, s.c. ; head more than one-fourth of the length ; orbit and interorbital space one-fifth of the head, snout (from upper lip) half. Maxillary reaches a little beyond the vertical from the nostril. Mandible without appendage. The origin of the spinous dorsal is over the tip of the pectoral and middle of the ventral. Soft dorsal midway between the spinous and the caudal—the space between the two dorsals is seven and three-fourths in the total length. The anal commences below the anterior third of the soft dorsal. Body silvery, head golden. Scales very deciduous.

Long. 10."

Loc.—Moreton Bay.

TROCHOCOPUS SANGUINOLENTUS.

D. 12/10. A. 3/12. L. lat. 33. L. transv. 7/11.

Height three and one-third ; head three and two-thirds in the total length ; snout two and a-half in the head ; pectoral more than two-thirds of the head. Scales of cheeks in six series below the eye, caudal fin rounded medially with elongated outer rays ; soft dorsal and anal pointed ; anterior canines $\frac{4}{4}$ laterals small, enlarging posteriorly, forming the outer row of a broad band of tubercular molars, which is not continued distinctly across the symphysis ; posterior canine small. Color (recent), crimson ; on head, opercles and base of pectoral, numerous, guttated spots of yellow ; eight anterior dorsal spines and webs jet black ; scales of posterior part of trunk with a faint blue median streak.

Long 16."

Loc. Hutchinson Shoal, Cape Moreton, in deep water.

LABRICHTHYS DUX.

L. lat. 25. L. transv. 3/9.

Height one-third of the length, s.c., head two-sevenths of same ; snout two and three-fourth, orbit five, interorbit four, in the length of the head, Aposterior canine ; a large, flanked by a smaller canine

in each jaw on each side, Four series of scales below the eye, two behind it, the front one large; scales of opercle large; Tubules of lateral line dichotomously branched on the loins, simple posteriorly; lower profile more convex than the upper. Colour (recent), reddish olive, with several indefinite dark cross bars. On the trunk a number of rather more distinct longitudinal bands, the median three radiating from the orbit; cheek and lips reddish orange; dorsal fin crimson, a deep blue spot between the second and third spines; pectoral pink, a small deep blue spot above the axilla.

Long. 7."

Loc. Moreton Bay.

PLAGUSIA NOTATA.

D. + C. + A. 190. V. 4.

Height less than three and a-half in the total length; head four and one-fourth in the same. Rostral reaching somewhat behind the lower eye. Nostril in a papilla about one-eighth of an inch long. Three lateral lines on the left side, communicating with each other by vertical ones upon the head and operculum. Dorsal fin commencing nearly on a level with the upper eye; on the left side a long veined papilla with an orifice (nasal?) near its base. Color (recent) dark brown, becoming ruddy in front of the eyes. The ground color is broken up by black lines enclosing pale angular spots, whereof congeries of four or five of larger size are scattered over the body pretty closely, their interspaces being filled with the smaller ones. Fins with short vermiculate lines and small spots of white. Left side, uniform white.

Long. 11,"

Loc.—Moreton Bay.

SYNAPTURA CINEREA.

D. 57. C. 14. A. 39. V. 4. P. 4.

Height one-half, and head one sixteenth of the total length Pectoral (right) one-half, snout one-third, and interorbit one-sixth of the length of the head. Ventrals continuous with, but somewhat removed from the anal. Dorsal and anal in similar confluence with the caudal, the connecting webs notched. No ocular tentacles. Barbels fringing lips and surrounding nasal tube, which is not

prolonged. Left pectoral shorter and much weaker than the right. Upper eye in advance of lower. Scales edged with 10 (circa) spikelets. Color (recent) grey, blotched with black, black vertical bars at regular intervals on the dorsal and anal; left side white, with a purple blush, orange spots, and the fins orange.

Long.

Loc.—Moreton Bay.

CROSSORHINUS.

Under the common name of "Tiger Shark," two fish commonly associated in habitat, seem to be considered by Queensland fishermen as varieties of one and the same. One of these is certainly *Crossorhinus barbatus*, and the other does not appear to have been as yet discriminated by ichthyology. It is in the style of colouring, a matter too much neglected in describing these sharks, allied to *C. tentaculatus*. Pet., but differs from that species as characterised by possessing the tentacular fringe of *barbatus*. It is a much smaller fish than *barbatus*, never apparently exceeding three feet in length, whereas six, ten, and twelve feet are attained by the latter.

C. ORNATUS.

Tentacles as in *C. barbatus*. Distance between the dorsals less than the length of either. No supraciliary tubercles; fifth gill opening nearly twice as long as the fourth. Color yellowish, with broad dark cross bands, the hinder ones encircling the tail. The two dorsal bands have deeply fretted edges, and enclose pairs of ocelli. On the snout, a pair of dendritic brown markings. On the occiput, a symmetrical brown pattern, and between each of the caudal zones is a black spot.

Loc.—Moreton Bay, &c.

OCCASIONAL NOTES ON PLANTS INDIGENOUS IN THE IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF SYDNEY. No. 4.

BY E. HAVILAND.

I suppose there are few persons, who, having rambled about the coast in the neighbourhood of Sydney, have not become acquainted with a shrub or small tree, ranging from two to six or eight feet